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NOTICES FROM THE LICK OBSERVATORY.*

PREPARED BY MEMBERS OF THE STAFF.

CAPELLA AGAIN.

Since the discovery that *Capella* is a spectroscopic binary it has been of much interest to see if it is also a telescopic double star. I have given the result of my examination of it for 1900, having this object in view, in No. 484 of the *Astronomical Journal* and in No. 75 of these *Publications*. I there stated that I had examined *Capella* on several afternoons early in June, 1900, with the 36-inch refractor without obtaining any visual evidence of its being a double star. The result then obtained was not regarded as conclusive, for the seeing, though good, was not excellent, according to our standards.

On the nights of August 2d and 5th, 1900, I made further examinations with the same instrument, using powers of 1000, 1500, 1900, and 2600. With all these powers the star appeared round. On these dates the seeing was excellent, and stood all these powers perfectly. On the last date the seeing was perhaps the best. With conditions such as then prevailed an elongation due to a distance of a tenth of a second would have been readily perceptible with the lowest power used, and a considerably smaller distance would have given an unmistakable elongation with the higher powers. On the last date glass color-screens of various shades were used a part of the time to reduce the light. Mr. PERRINE at this time also made careful examinations with all of the powers without detecting any elongation.

According to the elements of the orbit of this binary as derived from the spectroscopic observations, the most favorable dates for detecting an elongation visually are about April 15th, June 6th, July 28th, September 18th, and November 9th, 1900, and April 14th, June 5th, July 27th, September 17th, and November 8th, 1901. On account of the orbit's being nearly circular, the apparent distance has nearly its maximum value for a few days on either side of the dates given.

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I have recently examined *Capella* again on two good nights. At the time of the last examination, August 2, 1901, the seeing was excellent and all the powers mentioned above were successively used. Glass color-screens of different shades were used at times to reduce the light. At the time of this examination the zenith distance of *Capella* varied from 45° to 38°. With all powers the central disc of the star's image was sharply defined, very small, and apparently perfectly round.

W. J. HUSSEY.

TIMES OF THE ELONGATIONS OF *MIMAS*.

While making measurements of the relative positions of the inner satellites of *Saturn* during the present summer, I noticed that *Mimas* reached its greatest eastern and western elongations about 4.2 hours earlier than the predicted times given in the American Ephemeris. On writing to Dr. HARSHMAN, Director of the Nautical Almanac Office, in reference to the matter, he informed me that the predicted times were based upon Professor HALL'S elements. He also furnished me the systematic corrections necessary to reduce the times of elongation as derived from Professor HALL'S elements to those derived from Dr. H. STRUVE'S elements, as follows:—

1900.0	$-3^h.68$
1901.0	-4.02
1902.0	-4.37
1903.0	-4.72
1904.0	-5.06

The times of elongation of *Mimas* for the years 1900, 1901, 1902, and 1903, as given in the American Ephemeris, are based upon HALL'S elements. Those for 1904 are based upon STRUVE'S elements. From my measures it appears that STRUVE'S elements represent the motion closely.

W. J. HUSSEY.

DUPLICITY OF *66 TAURI* AND OF THE PRINCIPAL COMPONENT OF Σ 2339.

While examining *66 Tauri* with the 12-inch telescope, February 24, 1900, I discovered that it is a close pair. Several months